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Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

Annual Country Report

2005

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Report Highlights:

Within the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, the recently created Food Control Division, a semi-autonomous division of the Protection and Control General Directorate, is the competent authority that performs official food control in accordance with Turkish Law. Work continues on the process to harmonize Turkish food law with EC Directives. As this process continues, changes to many domestic and import regulations are constant - exporters need to work closely with importers to ensure that all requirements are met before shipping.

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This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/ Foreign Agricultural Service in Ankara, Turkey for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before and goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

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Section I: Food Laws

On May 27, 2004, Turkey published a new law entitled the Law on the Production, Consumption and Inspection of Food. The law establishes a new framework for developing and implementing changes to specific standards such as the Turkish Food Codex. The objective is harmonization with EU regulations. This law has resulted in the creation of the National Food Codex Commission whose responsibility is to prepare, review and approve all changes to the Turkish Food Codex, including those changes that take place through EU harmonization. There are currently 25 sub-committees working on specific revisions to various aspects of the Turkish Food Codex. As this is a framework law, regulations pertaining to its implementation have slowly taken place throughout the past year, and are expected to continue.

In addition to the May 27, 2004 Food Law, the Turkish food industry and food imports are primarily regulated by four related laws and regulations: the June 24, 1995 Turkish Food Law; the November 16, 1997 Turkish Food Codex, the June 8, 1998 Food Regulation and a September 1, 2003 Notification related to the control processes during the import phase and the approval of the Control Document (import license) of the packaging materials that are in contact with food and food materials. The current Turkish Food Codex and all amendments, new regulations, notifications, etc. are available at www.kkgm.gov.tr. In addition, bulk or semi-processed plant materials and meat and dairy products are subject to Plant Quarantine Law (Law No: 6968) and Animal Health Law (Law No: 3285).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), General Directorate of Protection and Control (KKGm), has held primary responsibility for food production, import and export regulations. The semi-autonomous Food Control Division has functional responsibility for food safety issues regarding food, beverages, nutritional supplements and packaging material. The intended point of contact for food importers, however, is a network of 20 Provincial Directorate Authorities (PDAs). Located around the country, PDAs are the point to deliver an import application which includes the application for an import license. Once the application package is reviewed, the PDAs have the authority to issue the import license.

The import process for each product culminates in the issuance (or not) of an import license. The majority of food and non-food items (A List) are subject to an issuance of an import license which, in Turkish is called "Kontrol Belgesi", or control document prior to import. However, a short but growing list (B List) of food items (coffee, cacao) are not required to have an import license prior to import but should have the necessary documents to be cleared from the customs. Both lists of products can be obtained and from the above web site (regulation no: 2005/5) and checked with the universal customs codes. For processed products, these licenses are required on each shipment and expire, in some cases, after six months. Import licenses are often denied or delayed for political reasons (as in the case of meat products, wheat, wheat flour, barley, sugar, rice and corn).

While many U.S. foods are imported into Turkey without problems, some U.S. companies have problems complying with Turkish requirements for certifications which are not normally issued in the United States. Requirements and standards for some imported foods may be stricter than those currently applied in the EU or to domestically produced products. The General Directorate of Protection and Control and Food Control Division have a somewhat conservative approach to regulating imports of food and agricultural products. The Turkish food law requires products be inspected at the point of entry, wholesale and retail levels.

Section II: Labeling Requirements

A. General Requirements

Certain aspects of the Turkish regulation on packaging and labeling dated May 13, 1998 were updated on August 25, 2002 and published in the Official Gazette. An imported food item

may arrive in its original package, but a permanent 'sticker' label, in Turkish, must be attached to the package before it is marketed. A recent regulation published April 6, 2005 requires that imported wine and alcoholic beverages have a Turkish label put on to the bottle during production or prior to arrival to Turkey. The Ministry is working on a new labeling requirement for alcoholic beverages to prevent smuggling caused by increased taxes on imported products. There are three different sets of labeling requirements for foods, food additives and food flavoring. These are discussed further in Appendix III.

The following information must be printed on all imported food labels:

- Name and brand of product
- Name and address of producing company
- Name and address of importing company
- Production batch number and date
- Country of Origin
- Expiration date/shelf life (see below)
- Nutrition and caloric values
- Net weight/volume
- List of ingredients and additives
- Ministry of Agriculture production or import license number/and date
- Storage, preparation and usage instructions when needed
- Name and type of packing material
- Special warnings, if appropriate
- Percentage of alcohol (if the product contains more than 1.2 percent alcohol)

Label requirements are enforced by the Ministry of Agriculture and local municipality officials. If the product has a shelf life of less than three months, it must include the day/month/year of expiration, if the shelf life is more than three months but less than eighteen, the month and year are required and if the shelf life is more than three years, only the year is required. In the case of fruits and vegetables, which might be sold in bins or open stands, labels are required on the exterior of bulk packaging. Another regulation requires that labels for fruit "juices" specify whether the product contains fruit juice (90-100% concentration), nectar (20-50% concentration), or fruit drinks (up to 10% concentration).

There are several regulations, which guide content and other implied claims. The Turkish Food Codex prevents inclusion of statements like "prevents or cures disease" on labels. Also, a new regulation modifying energy drinks regulation was released on April 2005 which limits caffeine levels to 320 mg per liter and requires health warnings on the label.

B. Requirements Specific to Nutritional Labeling

Items that are suitable for individuals that have metabolism and digestion disorders and special physiological conditions can use "diet" on the label according to the regulation dated April 22, 2002. MARA updated its regulations related to nutritional labeling on August 25, 2002. Nutritional labeling is only required if the product is for a particular dietary requirement (such as diabetic) and if it is modified for that purpose. Nutritional values (by 100 gr. measures) must be included on labels for locally produced and imported nutritional products. Nutritional values should include protein, carbohydrate and fat content of the product. If the energy and/or fat content of a product is reduced by twenty-five percent, the word "reduced" or "light" may be printed on the label. The standard U.S. nutritional fact panel may be included on the label, but cannot replace the locally required information. Disputes regarding health claims in food should be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Section III: Packaging and Container Regulations

Turkish food packing material regulations were revised on Sept. 1 2003 and most recently through a series of notifications on July 4, 2005. The importation of some food packing

materials may require an import license. According to the regulations, in each case a health certificate is required from a public authority i.e., State Department of Public Health. In some cases the Ministry also accepts "Certificate of Free Sale". It is imperative to check with the importer to determine which language is required and accepted. Turkish regulations include nine different standards for food grade packaging materials, including paper, glass, metal, and plastics like PET and PVC bottles. Sizes and types of packaging used for foods are generally flexible. Regulations, which are somewhat ambiguous, are available at the website at www.kkgm.gov.tr.

Section IV: Food Additive Regulations

The Turkish Food Codex lists maximum amounts of additives allowed in food items (positive list) as well as conditions under which additives cannot be used. For example, it is forbidden to use added sweeteners in infant formulas and baby foods (0-3 years). The food additive section of the codex is quite detailed and is drafted to conform with EU regulations. It refers to the FEMA and COE codes for additives, when applicable. Of concern to exporters of processed products is that all flavors (which may be proprietary) be specifically listed in the application for product registration. See Appendix III for a partial list of labeling requirements for imported food additives and flavorings.

Section V: Pesticide and Other Contaminants

The Turkish Food Codex lists the maximum level of pesticides and veterinary medicines which are permitted in food items. The list of permitted pesticides and veterinary medicines is contained in Section 17 and 18 of the Turkish Food Codex. For these regulations and subsequent updates, go to the following link:

<http://www.kkgm.gov.tr/Mevzuat/Kodeks.asp?Adres=KodeksList.htm> and click on sections No.17 (Pesticides) and No.18 (veterinary medicines).

The Turkish Food Law maintains provisions for regulators to refer to the Codex Alimentarius or EU Directives if the pesticides or veterinary medicine products are not contained in the Turkish Food Codex.

Section VI: Other Regulations and Requirements

The importer is responsible for registering each product. The process can normally take up to two weeks. Laboratory testing is required for all products.

The sample analysis costs at the public control laboratories are annually determined by a commission organized by the General Directorate, taking into consideration the analysis expenditures.

Section VII: Other Specific Standards

Turkey currently has a ban on all meat, beef, poultry and slaughter cattle imports. Imports of breeding cattle are highly restricted. Milk and dairy product imports are usually only allowed for products that are not produced locally.

Turkey and the United States recently negotiated a health certificate for the export of live, fresh and frozen seafood to Turkey. The certificate, issued by NOAA, is identical to the certificate used to export seafood to the European Union.

Requirements for product sample shipments are slightly different than those for products intended for consumption. For imports of samples, there is no pre-permission, or import license (kontrol begesi). Technically, there are no documentation requirements if the sample is for an exhibit or scientific research.

For commercial samples, the importer needs to fill out a special form from the Provincial Agriculture Directorate and provide a copy of the pro forma invoice (if it is free of charge,

this is simply stated on the invoice). Once the Provincial Agriculture Directorate has that form, they will do a letter to customs to notify them to release the sample. Note - there is still no health certificate.

Baby Food: There are special requirements and promotion limitations for baby foods and formulas. This information is found at the following links:

<http://www.kkgm.gov.tr/Mevzuat/Kodeks.asp?Adres=KodeksList.htm> /Türk Gıda Kodeksi Tebliği/ [Bebek Mamaları - Bebek Formülleri Tebliği](#)
[Bebek ve Küçük Çocuk Ek Besinleri Tebliği](#)

Alcoholic Beverages: Alcoholic beverages that have more than 1.2% alcohol in volume, the alcohol amount must be stated on the label.

[Alkollü İçkilerde Hacmen Alkol Miktarının Etiketle Bildirilmesi Kakkında Tebliğ](#)

Energy Drinks: According to the Turkish Food Codex-Notification related to the amendment of the Energy Drinks Notification (No : 2005/7) published on the Official gazette dated February 04, 2005 with ref. No.: 25717, the caffeine amount in the energy drinks is limited.

The energy drinks are divided into two groups according to the caffeine amount they contain:

- 1) Energy drinks with low caffeine: maximum 150 mg/L,
- 2) Energy drinks with high caffeine: 150-320 mg/L

The energy drinks stated in this notification should not contain more than the following:

- Inositol	200 mg/L
- Glukoronolakton	2400 mg/L
- Taurin	4000 mg/L

Diabetic products (Food for those who have carbohydrate metabolism disorder (diabetics)): The notification related to these products has not been promulgated yet.

Section VIII: Copyright and Trademark Laws

Companies must apply to the Turkish Patent and Trademark Institute for trademark registration. A separate application is required for each brand name. After the initial inspection and check, the trademark is announced in the Official Trademark Gazette for three months. If there are no objections during this period, the trademark can be registered. The process takes about four months and currently costs about \$310.

Section IX: Import Procedures

A. Import Regulations

Imports of food products into Turkey are allowed only if they conform with Turkey's Food Codex Regulations. Turkey is currently slowly working to harmonize all of its food import regulations to those of the European Union system, as represented by the regulations that are contained in the Turkish Food Codex Regulation. If the product in question is not covered by the Turkish Food Codex, officials can reference the international Codex Alimentarius or relevant EU Directives on a case-by-case basis.

B. The Import Process

In order to import any foodstuff, an importer must first submit a written application to the relevant Provincial Directorate Authority (PDA). (See Appendix I). No products can be imported until the PDA issues an import license (Kontrol Belgesi). The application package depends on the type of product, which is outlined on the website www.kkgm.gov.tr

For example, to import processed products, the application includes:

1. A completed import license form obtainable from the website above;
2. A Proforma Invoice;

3. An Analysis Report from government agency or under the exporting company's letterhead, providing physical, chemical, microbiological and heavy metal specifications on the product imported. Frozen seafood is exempted from this requirement. A dioxin free certificate is also required from all countries.
4. For consumer-ready products, a sanitary or phytosanitary certificate from the government food inspection agency of the country of origin stating that the product meets the phytosanitary requirements of the importing country. This is normally a "Certificate of Free Sale" issued by a State authority which must indicate that " the product was produced in accordance with local laws and regulations and is fit for human consumption and is freely marketed in the country origin";
5. A sample of the Turkish label for the product.
6. For alcohol products, a "distribution certificate" provided by the producer's company to the importer and/or distributor indicating that the Turkish company is authorized to market and deliver the product in Turkey;
7. For "special" foods such as diet foods, foods for diabetics, vitamins, baby foods, etc. the importer must provide a written declaration that he will not advertise the foodstuff in such a way as to mislead the consumer.

The importer will normally receive written approval along with an approved import license from the Provincial Directorate Authority within one or two weeks.

C. Customs Inspection and Documentation

Upon entry of the product at Customs, the importer should be prepared to present the approved import license as well as other normal import documentation such as the bill of lading, original invoice and certificate of origin. In addition, the importer should be prepared to present Customs with the exporting company's analysis report for physical, chemical, microbiological and heavy metal content, and a phytosanitary certificate from the official food inspection agency of the country of origin stating that the product meets the phytosanitary requirements of the importing country.

Turkish Ministry of Agriculture officials take samples of the imported product to government laboratories for physical, chemical and microbiological analysis and confirm it matches the information supplied from the exporting country. Import of the foodstuff is allowed if the results of the analysis are found to be acceptable and consistent with Turkish regulations, and the imports have been approved by the MARA. Results of the analysis are normally completed within a few working days.

In addition, if the foodstuff is a bulk or semi-processed commodity, it is checked by plant quarantine specialists or veterinarians for consistency with Plant Quarantine Law (Law No: 6968) and Animal Health Law (Law No: 3285).

Appendix I: Government Regulatory Agency Contacts

Nihat Pakdil, General Director
General Directorate of Protection and Control
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Akay Cad. No: 3, Ankara, Turkey
Phone: (90 312) 425-7789 Fax: (90 312) 418-6318

Dr. Nevzat Artik, Deputy General Director for Food
The Food Control Division
General Directorate of Protection and Control
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Gayret Mah. Sehit Cem Ersever Cad. No:11
Yenimahalle, Ankara, Turkey

Phone: (90-312) 343 69 36

Fax: (90-312) 344 68 72

There are 20 Provincial Directorate Authorities, each of which have the first-line regulatory authority to issue import licenses for specific products. They are intended to be the primary point of contact for importers to submit their import applications. The complete list can be found at the website: www.kkgm.gov.tr

The Main Provincial Directorate Authorities are:

Veysi Ak

Section Chief/Food Control

Provincial Agricultural Directorate-Istanbul

Tarim II Mudurlugu

Bagdat Cad. No.333

Kontrol Sube Mudurlugu, Kadikoy

Istanbul, Turkey

Phone: (90-216) 3698150

Fax: (90-216) 467 23 85 or (90-216) 355 37 15

Muzaffer Agar

Izmir Provincial Director

Izmir Tarim II Mudurlugu

Universite Cad. No: 47 Bornova, Izmir, Turkey

Phone: (90-232) 435 10 02 or (90-232) 462 21 80

Fax: (90-232) 462 59 14

Mehmet Kara

Mersin Provincial Director

Mersin Tarim II Mudurlugu

Gazi Mah. Mersin, Turkey

Phone: (90-324) 326 40 13

Fax: (90-324) 326 40 12

There are 40 provincial food control laboratories, the largest being:

- 1) Ankara Provincial Food Control Laboratory Directorate Ankara, Turkey
Phone: (90 312) 315-0089 or 315-8709 Fax: (90 312) 315 7934
- 2) Istanbul Provincial Food Control Laboratory Directorate Istanbul, Turkey
Phone: (90 212) 663-3961 or 663-3959 Fax: (90 212) 663-4296
- 3) Izmir Provincial Food Control Laboratory Directorate Izmir, Turkey
Phone: (90 232) 435-1481 or 435 0396 / 435-1481 / 435-6637
Fax: (90 232)-462 4197

Turkish Patent Institute

Izmir Cad. No. 28, Kizilay, Ankara

Phone (90 312) 232-5425 Fax (90 312) 424 1263

Competition Authority (Mr. Fevzi Ozkan-Food Issues)

B-3 Blok, Bilkent Plaza

Ankara, Turkey

Phone: (90 312) 266-6969/ext. 6007 Fax (90 312) 266-7920

Appendix II: Other Import Specialist Contacts

U.S. exporters are advised to contact the FAS offices in Ankara or Istanbul for additional information and/or a list of private sector firms which can provide assistance with customs clearance and import regulation issues. In most cases, the importing company or agent should be familiar (and ultimately responsible for) existing regulations.

Foreign Agricultural Service Offices in Turkey:

American Embassy, Ankara
110 Ataturk Blvd.
Kavaklıdere, Ankara
Tel: +90-312-455-5555 ext. 2406
Fax: +90-312-467-0056
Email: agankara@usda.gov

American Consulate, Istanbul
Kapalicalar Mevki Sokak
Istinye, 334460 Istanbul
Tel: +90-212-335-9000 ext. 9068
Fax: +90-212-335-9077
Email: agistanbul@usda.gov

Appendix III: Additional Labeling requirements**A. Turkish Labeling for Imported Foodstuffs**

1. The name and address of the exporting company;
2. The name(s) and corresponding EU tariff number(s) of the food additive(s);
3. The names, uses, and amounts in decreasing order, of any other substances used to dilute, dissociate, standardize, or facilitate the storage and marketing of the food additive;
4. The specific usage and storage instructions, if needed;
5. A statement indicating that the additive can be used in food;
6. The lot and serial number;
7. The net quantity;
8. If the additive is to be used only in restricted amounts, the applicable percentage restrictions;
9. If the product is derived from an animal, indication of the animal type.
10. The date of production;
11. The expiration date, conforming with provisions of Section 9 of the TFCR on packaging and labeling;
12. The import permission date and number;
13. Artificial sweeteners such as aspartame which will be sold directly to the consumer should have a cautionary statement that the product if used in excess can cause diarrhea, and that the product includes phenylalanine if applicable.

B. Turkish Labeling for Food Flavoring

1. The name and address of the manufacturer or packer or seller company;
2. A statement indicating that this is a "Flavoring Substances" or a more specific description of the flavoring;
3. A statement indicating that this flavoring substance is suitable to be used in food;
4. The list of flavoring substances by their categories in decreasing order;
5. The names, classifications, and EU numbers in decreasing order of those flavoring substances listed in Article 9 of the Food Flavoring Section (Section VI) below, if they are used in the food;
6. The maximum quantities of those ingredients allowed are listed in Appendix 12
7. A statement indicating that this flavoring substance is "For Food Production";
8. Net quantity;
9. The lot or serial number;
10. The date of production and shelf life;
11. The import permission date and number;
12. The specific storage and usage conditions, if needed;

NOTE: If the food additive is sold directly to the consumer, the product should also contain instructions for use.

C. Additional Information on Food Additives

The classification, name or synonym, and EU food additive number, the name of the final food product that the food additive may be used in, the maximum amount of the food additive that may be used, and other technical requirements related to food additives are provided in Appendices 1 through 11 of the Turkish Food Codex Regulation (TFCR). Among the regulations contained in the TFCR are lists of 1) substances that may not be used as food additives 2) food items for which food additives are not allowed and 3) food items for which coloring materials may not be used. Those lists follow:

1. A partial list of substances that may not be used as food additives:
 - * White or yellow dextrine, roasted or dextrinated starch, starch modified with acidic or alkaloid treatment, bleached starch, physically modified starch, and starch treated by enzymes,
 - * Ammonium chloride,
 - * All amino acids and their salts, glycine, cysteine, cystine and their salts, and those do not have an additive function,
 - * Casein and caseinates,
 - * Flavoring substances,
 - * Minerals, vitamins and all other similar substances used to support nutritional values of the food.
2. A partial list of foods for which additives are not allowed:
 - * Bulk or semi-processed non processed commodities,
 - * Honey,
 - * Vegetable and livestock origin non emulsified solid and liquid fats and oils,
 - * Naturally fermented but non-flavored milk products,
 - * Sugar,
 - * Dried pasta,
3. A partial list of foodstuffs for which food colorings are not allowed except under those conditions listed in Appendix 7 of the TFCR:
 - * Raw vegetable and livestock origin solid and liquid fats and oils,
 - * Eggs and egg products,
 - * Flour, flour products and starch,
 - * Bakery products,
 - * Pasta products,
 - * Sugar,
 - * Tomato paste and canned tomatoes,
 - * Tomato origin sauces,
 - * Fruit and vegetable juices and nectars,
 - * Processed fruits, vegetables and mushrooms,
 - * Chestnut paste,
 - * Red and white meat, including sea products and poultry, and their products,
 - * Roasted coffee, tea, and chicory and their extracts and mixes,
 - * Wines,
 - * Wine vinegars,
 - * All baby foods,
 - * Honey,
 - * Malt and malt products,

- * Non flavored cheese,

In addition, the following criteria are applied to food additives:

- * No artificial sweeteners may be used in baby food.
- * Seasonings like paprika, saffron, turmeric etc. may be used in the production of food products because they are not considered to be coloring material.

D. Additional Information on Food Flavorings

The maximum quantities of food flavoring substances are listed in Table 12 of the Turkish Food Codex. Among the regulations governing the use of food flavorings are the following:

1. There must not be any item or element in such a dose in the flavoring substances which could have toxic effect.
2. The quantities of the elements in flavoring substances must not exceed the following limits:
 - Arsenic : 3 mg/kg
 - Lead : 10 mg/kg
 - Cadmium : 1 mg/kg
 - Mercury : 1 mg/kg
3. The amount of 3.4 benzopyrene must not exceed 0.03 mg/kg.
5. If the flavoring substances are derived from a livestock product then the product type must be indicated.

Appendix IV: Documents needed to obtain Control Certificate/Import License for various items.

Special Nutritional Food

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Health Certificate
Component List
Specification Document
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate*1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

Energy Drinks

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Letter of Undertaking
Component List
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

Animal Products (Pork Products Only)

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Component List
Sample Health Certificate
Letter of Undertaking (Promissory note to provide original health certificate upon arrival of goods)

Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2
Document of closure

Cheese

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Sample Health Certificate
Letter of Undertaking (Promissory note to provide original health certificate
Upon arrival of goods)
Component List
Specification Document
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2
Import License (original copy, notarized copy and their photocopies)

Butter

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Sample Health Certificate
Letter of Undertaking (Promissory note to provide original health certificate
upon arrival of goods)
Component List
Specification Document
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2
Inward Processing Permit or Import License (original copy, notarized copy and their
photocopies)

Stone Fruit (walnut, almond, etc.)

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2
Document of closure

Dried powdered products

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Certificate or Letter of Undertaking

Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

Dried Products in granule or lumps

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Component List
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

Alcoholic Beverages

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Specification Document
Component List
Certificate of Origin
Label
Certificate of free sale
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

*1 The importer firms will present their commercial activity certificate only during the first application. This certificate will not be required with the following applications.

*2 Trade Registry Gazette is required if the commercial activity certificate is not clearly indicating commercial activities of the importing firm and not covering the imported item.